

LETTERS

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CONNECT

Buzz: Prof. Sprirer's note in MUG about setting the PLINK program byte at memory address 0156H to OCFh for 300 baud, OCEh for 1200 baud, and OCDh for 19,200 baud Intrigues me. I would think the answer he seeks is to just use the CONNECT Menu Option "C" to set up Customized Parameter Files for each of his 3 baud rate selections. The parameter files (called xxx.SYS), when invoked upon running CONNECT, would configure the ZCB's 8251 USART ("device") to the Fast or Medium or Slow which that .SYS file contains. He would have had to set his DIP-switches on the ZCB board to 19,200 (if that's possible) in order for "Fast" to represent 19,200 baud [19,200/11; "Medium" to represent 1200 baud [19,200/16]; and "Slow" to represent 300 baud [19,200/64] as I understand it.

The .SYS parameter file must actually poke the selected baud rate factor [by which your DIP-switch setting gets cut] into CONNECT, and running CONNECT with that particular .SYS parameter file sends the Reset and this Mode choice on to the 8251 USART through the RS-232 Status Port. So why would one want to make that change via the MONITOR programming routine poking the code into CONNECT (from whence you must still see that it gets sent on to the USART), when CONNECT itself provides such an easy method of storing the code in the .SYS file and sending it out to the USART?

I am not a Systems Programmer (or any kind of programmer) so I do not speak with authority or sure knowledge on these subjects. But a few months ago I was searching for baud rate answers for my Vector 2600 and its 8251 USART, initially to try to find out whether it was a framing error or buffer overrun or parity error that was causing my DIABLO to suddenly lapse into jaberwocky (v*&%@xty) in the middle of a letter. (I still have no answer.) Then I tried to find the CONNECT rate-setting code so that I might try to build an independent COM file to quickly change the baud rate. My search leaves me wondering just how programmable our 8251 USART really is. I am still confused.

Edward W. King, P.O. Box 787, Ithaca NY 14850

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ANOTHER VECTOR USER GROUP

As long as we're talking about Herb Spirer, I might mention that he sent in the following article from the 1/21/85 InfoWorld. "The San Francisco Bay Area Vector Graphics users group, already 86 members strong, would like to offer its support to other owners of this machine. Peter Tjeerdsma, an independent service technician for the Vector, is the impetus behind the group, which is still in the planning stages. The next meeting will take place in San Francisco during the last week of January. All interested Vector owners can contact Tjeerdsma at 765 Cole St., No. 4, San Francisco CA 94117; (415) 681-0308."

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PUBLIC DOMAIN POWER FOR CP/M

The problem with public domain software is that its capabilities are not publicized widely. You normally hear about a good program from a dealer, or see it touted in a magazine and shell out good money in the hopes it will live up to its hype. In contrast, free public domain software has unfamiliar names to distinguish it as a part of a vast library of utilities and to give you a clue about the latest update of many times refined programs.

Those familiar with Digital Research's CP/M operating system know there are resident or built-in commands, namely display DIRectory, TYPE file to the tube of printer, ERase or delete a file, and REName a file. Then there are the transient command programs such as STATus of disk, PIP or Peripheral Interchange Program, which come with the CP/M system. Long time hackers can tell you of the wonders of Squeeze/Unsqueeze wherewith a file may be compressed to reduce it by about 40% before storing in on disk.

NSWP206.COM

How about having ONE 12K program called New Sweep, written in assemblage language and updated in April 1984 (to run on any CP/M 2.x, 3.x, or MP/M based system with no changes) which will do ALL of the foregoing, and more. It comes with more than 16 pages of DOCumentation and a COMand file with quick reference (?) help screen.

The NSWP206.LBR

New Sweep has a well documented group of files from its author, Dave Rand, 10232 - 160th St., Edmonton,

Alberta Canada T5P 3E9 (403) 484-4114. Some of the principal files include:

NSWP206.COM, 12K, NSWP206.DQC 30K, NSWP2.HLP 27K, & NSWP206.UPD, 4K.

WHERE TO GET IT

This library of file management utilities can be obtained from one of the many Remote CP/M bulletin boards. [Ed Note: Version 207 is partially available on MUG CP/M Disk 1911. Remember, if there's any SIG/M 8" disk you'd like downloaded, just let me know. I can get them.]

Thomas Cook, 3443 Ocean View Blvd., Glendale CA 91208

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VECTOR SOFTWARE

I am using a Vector 3 Model 5005 with the hard disc drive and 5-1/4" floppy port Tandem drive in my office. I am interested in learning what types of software you have that will run on my Vector's 3 and would appreciate a list of the software.

Recently I purchased an old system B and shipped it to my brother back East. Included in the materials were all the back issues of your Micropolis Users Group. In reviewing the Newsletters, I was pleased to see that the Micropolis software apparently will run on the Vector. I would appreciate any and all input you might have regarding small software packages that would be available for my Vector system. I am particularly interested in accounting, legal billing and data management.

Douglas J. Farrell

Douglas - The Vector-3, Model 5005, will run most "configurable" CP/M programs, and, of course, anything written specifically for the Vector. You probably know a program is configurable if the ad says the program is available in the 8" standard CP/M format.

There seems to be a lot of confusion about disk formats and the ability of a program to run on a Vector. There are several things to keep in mind when purchasing a program. First of all, at least in your case, it must run under CP/M. That's the only operating system you have. People running the older Vector's may also have the MDOS operating system (Micropolis), and people running newer Vector's may have the MS-DOS (Microsoft) operating system.

A program written under CP/M may be usable by you, and it may not. The least sophisticated programs use only standard CP/M interfaces and do input/output in a character by character mode, completely independent of any hardware. You can run this sort of program, which is of the type contained on our MBASIC MUG library disks.

The next level of program sophistication requires a CRT which is addressable in the X-Y planes, and may require a reverse video capability. The Vector supports this. CRTs vary in the method they address the X-Y plane, however. Now you have to have a way to configure the program for "your" terminal. Most commercial software of this type includes an unsophisticated "install" program which allows menu selection of a particular terminal, or the answering of a set of questions which describe a terminal. Commercial software working in this manner includes WordStar, Spellbinder, dBase II, SuperCalc, etc. If the program doesn't have Vector included in their menu selection, you have to know the control codes which perform the required functions. These codes are discussed in your Vector manual, and have been discussed in past newsletters.

A third level of sophistication is a product made for a particular piece of hardware. Although more common in the IBM arena, such as Lotus 1-2-3, it is still true for CP/M machines. Vector's Memorite wordprocessor, and their other products, only work on the Vector. There are some others that will only work on a KayPro, or some other specific computer. Programs of this type will not be available in an 8" or a Vector/Micropolis format.

Once you have determined that a program is usable by you, you need to get it on a disk that your Vector can read. The format you normally use is double-sided 77-track, 100 tracks per inch. I've never seen any ad refer to the format in this manner, though. Sometimes you'll see "Vector-3" mentioned, which would probably be exactly what you want. More commonly, you'll see "Vector", "Micropolis", or "Micropolis/Vector". This is not double-sided. All of you with double-sided drives can read single-sided disks, however. The problem is that Vector kept changing the way you do it. Sometimes you use the MOVCPMx program, sometimes you use CONFIG F.

DAMAN can put software on a double-sided disk if you desire.

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MDOS I/O HANDLING

The Micropolis OS supports the Console and the Printer as I/O devices; Does it also support any other devices, as CP/M does? What I would like to do is add a third, or more, channel to talk to my modem. In the SYSQ1 file from MDOS, what is @D1PORT and @D2PORT?

Stu Haigh, 2961 Marrietta Dr., Santa Clara CA 95051 (408) 243-1067

Stu - The precise answer to your question is that location @D1PORT has a value resulting from the last execution of the ASSIGN(1,x) command. Location @D2PORT has a value resulting from the last execution of ASSIGN(2,y).

The easiest way to see what's going on is to look at paragraph 4.1.5.18 of the Micropolis manual, which describes the ASSIGN command under MDOS. Paragraph 5.22.1.5 discusses the ASSIGN under BASIC.

MDOS has only two output devices. These are normally defined as device-1 (typically the console) and device-2 (typically the printer). The two bytes at 04EC/04ED specify the address of device-1's vector table, while bytes 04EE/04EF specify the same information for device-2. See appendix E of the MDOS manual. You'll also be ahead of the game if you get either or both of the disassembled MDOS library disks.

I'll do a bit more thinking on this subject and try and get it in the next newsletter, as it's a pretty universal concept.

However, modem programs normally don't use the system's I/O routines anyway. It's too slow, especially if you want to do some 9600 baud hardwire transfers. There is a lot of overhead in the protocol (error checking, etc.) than in normal console or printer output.

Never-the-less, there are ways of servicing multiple devices, whether they be modems, extra printers, or extra CRTs, using only the two physical MDOS drivers.

You can find some scratch area in RES and create a new set of routines, with a new jump table preceeding it. When you want your program to use this alternate output device, you have to poke its address in an appropriate location. You can also over- write all the code in the physical driver routine. Finally, you can overwrite, or poke, certain locations in the physical driver. Again, I'll try to be more specific.

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SPELLBINDER

Buzz: I am considering purchasing 'SPELLBINDER' and would like some details of the version DAMAN has on offer. Release number, latest available in Australia is 5.3; what macros come with it and whether installation programs are included.

I am currently using a memory mapped system, but will be changing to a S-100 system in the next few months and this new system is not memory mapped. I have seen both systems running and it would appear that there is a basic program (not written in BASIC) and two ASM files which can be configured and then patched onto the original program, this may not be correct as the dealer who supplied both versions did some work on the memory mapped version and left a few extra files on the distribution disk which tends to become confusing when no comments on this work are supplied with the package.

The package I require can be purchased in Australia but as most software doubles in price when it comes from the USA, I am reluctant to be knowingly 'ripped off' by a local dealer and as we have previously done business together, why not continue?

John L. Grace, P.O. Box 114, North Melbourne, Victoria Australia 3051

John: The current Spellbinder is, indeed, Version 5.3. You won't be ripped off by purchasing it, either in Australia or from DAMAN. It's a great wordprocessor.

The older versions used the assembly language files you speak of, but the new one uses tables. Loads of tables. However, it is basically configured through a menu driven install program. It supports either memory-mapped or terminal I/O as the console device. You'd probably be well advised to also purchase the technical manual, which describes how to set up all the tables, though it is possible to do most things with the user manual.

Spellbinder comes with two disks. One is the Spellbinder wordprocessor, the other the Electric Webster

spelling checker. The Spellbinder disk has the following files:

SB	.COM	ADDIT	.DEM	ORDER	.TEM	DAISY	.TAB
SB	.OVL	ADVERT		LABEL	.TEM	PCONTROL	.TAB
CONFIGSB	.COM	LETTER	.DEM	LETTER	.TEM	SANTEC	.TAB
HELP	.HEP	BOILER	.MAS	BOILER	.TEM	SPACE	.TAB
VECTOR	.DOC	TEXT	.DEM	INVOICE	.TEM		
		CLETTER	.A				
		KEYS	.A				
		CUSLIST	.DEM				
		CUSLIST	.CMA				
		CUSLIST	.DBF				
		DRIVER	.A				

The files in column 2 are demonstration text files. Those in column 3 are demonstration template files. Those in column 4 are table files used to configure printers. Spellbinder also has a programming, or MACRO, capability. Pre-written MACROs are supplied on the disk. To create additional ones of your own, or to modify those given, you'll need the technical manual. MACRO files included on the Spellbinder disk are:

Macros That Print:

BATCH .WPM Prints several Spellbinder files, one after the other, without intervention.
 TCPRT .WPM Prints text in two columns.
 LINENB .WPM Prints a line number on each line of a text file.
 PAGENUM .WPM Prints page numbers greater than 255. (You don't need this with V5.3)

Macros That Sort:

CUESORT .WPM Extracts items from a formatted list according to predefined categories.
 ALPHA .WPM Arranges a list in alphabetic or numeric order. It also can be used to select from a list all items within a designated alphabetic or numeric range.

Macros That Prepare Text:

BOILER .WPM Assembles a document from a collection of standard paragraphs or phrases.
 MMERGE .WPM Prints a personalized form letter for each entry on an address list.
 FORMS .WPM Allows you to create a form (such as an invoice) and automatically fill it in. You can subsequently print the filled-in data on a preprinted form, or use a blank sheet of paper to print both the form text and the filled-in data.
 KPHRASE .WPM Allows you to set up a list of commonly used phrases and then use a single keystroke to insert a particular phrase into your text.
 MLABEL .WPM Prints mailing labels from an address list.
 MOVEIT .WPM Allows you to alter tabular text. You may delete a column, move a column within a text file, or insert column from another text file.

Macros With Mathematical Capability:

ADDIT .WPM Adds columns and rows of numbers, and automatically inserts the sums into text.
 CALC .WPM Performs addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division on numbers that are already in your text or that you enter from the keyboard.
 PAGER .WPM
 FORMAT .WPM
 INSTALL .WPM

Spellbinder is available in a bunch of formats for both the CP/M and MSDOS operating systems, some of which are pre-configured to a particular computer, e.g., Exidy Sorcerer. The version I'm describing was semi-configured for a Vector. That is, if you tell Spellbinder that you have a User-defined terminal, the default configuration fits the Vector. Here's how the installation goes for a Vector.

----- SPELLBINDER VERSION 5.30 CONFIGURATION PROGRAM

This program will create or modify the Spellbinder SB.DAT file.
 You may press "RETURN" to skip any question, or "CONTROL-C" to exit this program.

0	User-defined terminal	15	Apple II (ALS CP/M)
1	Hazeltine 1500	16	Apple II (Microsoft or PCPI)
2	Volker-Craig VC4404	17	Apple III (Microsoft CP/M)
3	Intertube II	18	DEC Rainbow 100
4	Heath/Zenith H19/H89/H90	19	KAYPRO 2
5	Soroc IQ 120	20	KAYPRO 4 or 10

6	Televideo 920	21	NCR Decision Mate V
7	Televideo 925/950/TS802	22	NEC PC-8001A
8	Zentec Zephyr	23	North Star Advantage
9	Visual 200	24	Superbrain II
10	Adds Viewpoint	25	TRS Model II (Lifeboat CP/M)
11	Lear Siegler ADM-3A	26	TRS Model II (Pickles&Trout)
12	DEC VT-100	27	Xerox 820
13	Liberty Freedom 100	28	Xerox 820-II
14	WYSE 100	29	Zenith Z100

Enter the number for your terminal or computer: # [0]

Is your screen memory-mapped? (Y/N) [Y]

MEMORY-MAPPED VIDEO CONFIGURATION

TERMINAL PARAMETER	DEFAULT
-----	-----
Screen height (rows)	(24) decimal #
Screen width (columns)	(80) decimal #
Screen memory start address	(F000) hex #
Screen segment (8086 only)	(0000) hex #
Number of bytes used for each screen character in memory	(0001) hex #
Number of bytes separating adjacent lines in memory	(0050) hex #
Fixed amount added to ASCII character for screen display	(0000) hex #
Distance between the character byte and its attribute byte	(0000) hex #

Screen enhancement with 8th bit on? (Y/N)

Is this correct? (Y/N) [Y]

[All the above questions, except "is this correct", were answered with just a carriage return.]

- 1 Diablo 1610, NEC 3515/5515/7715
- 2 Qume Sprint 5/9/11, Diablo 630, C. Itoh F-10, Juki 6100
- 3 NEC 3510/5510/7710
- 4 Santec S700
- 5 Diablo 630 in program mode
- 6 C. Itoh F-10, Qume Sprint 11 in program mode
- 7 NEC 3550
- 8 Epson MX-80 (The STAR line of printers is EPSON compatible)
- 9 Okidata 92
- 10 IDS Prism
- 11 Leading Edge Prowriter

Enter the number for your printer: #[8]

Do you want user guides? [Y] (User Guides are two lines at the bottom of the screen which show all the keys to push to perform various functions. You probably want them to start, but can delete them and get two extra display lines for your text, after you become familiar with the keys.)

Do you want row/column numbering? [Y]

Number of disk drives (or last drive)? [5]

Approximate clock rate (40=4 MHz)? #[60]

Other options may be set in Spellbinder and saved with the "XS" command. Press "RETURN" key to complete configuration or "ESCAPE" key to restart.

[RETURN]

The above process generates a file named SB.DAT. At this point the system is configured for a Vector.

You have to use a 'control-J', etc., to move the cursor, however. The cursor keys don't work. To remedy this, one loads, modifies and reinstalls Table 129, the Key Table. The modified table is shown below, with the original values also listed. Installing a new table is as simple as putting the cursor on the "&", and typing "PS".

```
&129
; KYTAB
; TABLE FOR EDITING CONTROL KEYS
;
;
25 ; indent (Y)
09 ; tab
05 ; insert
03 ; clear
14 ; soft hyphen
16 ; enter enhance - Was 23
04 ; mode delete
11 ; mode enhance - Was 21
23 ; cursor left - Was 08
26 ; cursor right - Was 12
19 ; cursor scan
18 ; cursor down - Was 10
21 ; cursor up - Was 11
13 ; carriage return
06 ; mode forwards
02 ; mode backwards
27 ; escape
127 ; del
10 ; repeat - Was 18
20 ; rewrite
24 ; mark
12 ; decimal tab - Was 26
17 ; edit/command
15 ; cursor mode
07 ; previous screen
22 ; next screen
01 ; continue
00 ; enter print chars - Was 16
128 ; reserved
```

The cursor keys now work. Actually, you can select any codes you want, to do any of the Spellbinder functions. Except for the Vector-4, you don't have a bunch of excess keys, so you end up having to use 'Control-whatever' for commands.

I suppose the above table makes Spellbinder look imposing, but it isn't. There are two functional modes that Spellbinder works in, EDIT and COMMAND. The line that reads '17 ; edit/command' defines '17', or 'control-e', as the key that toggles you between those two modes. SOL users could substitute the MODE or LOAD keys on their keyboard for the 'control-e'. Any and all function keys on a keyboard can be used. You need to know what code they generate, of course.

We will do everything possible to alleviate unnecessary import duties. Is it conceivable (and legal) to send the manual labeled as "Educational Material - Books", and the disk (separately), to save on the duties? If there are preferable ways to send things, let us know.

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SWITCHING VG BAUD RATES BY SOFTWARE

Buzz: I really enjoyed the last few issues of the MUG newsletter. I think that it is benefitting a great deal from your ability to get contributions in from others. I have a question for you or other group members.

My hardware manual for the Vector 3005 indicates that the baud rate is established by initializing the 8251 chip per clock factor of 16, that is it creates the baud rate by dividing the clock input by 16. According to the manual it is possible for custom software to initial the 8251 with a clock factor of 64. It misses the case. The actual baud rate would be 1/4 of the baud rate selected on the baud rate switch on the ZCB board.

I would like to be able to set my ZCB board to 1200 baud and use a short machine language program to reinitialize the 8251 to a clock factor of 64 and therefore have the ability in software to select 300

baud when the switch is in 1200. Do you or any of your readers have a suggestion about how to do that?

Christopher Risley, 72 Kent Street, Brookline Mass. 02146; (617) 277-6277

Chris - I haven't totally tested this out, so it may not work. The theory is based on an 8251A USART diagram Ed King sent me, and page 18 of my VG Extended Systems Monitor 4.0 Users Guide. People running other than the 4.0 ROM might look for the code labeled "INIT".

Without going too deep into the theory, the idea is to send six bytes to the I/O channel you wish to initialize. The normal VG INIT sends (in HEX) 00 00 00 40 CE 27. This makes the I/O board work at the baud rate selected on the switch. If you wish the I/O to work at one-fourth that rate, send a CF instead of a CE. Although Vector doesn't document it, there seems to be one other option, a "times 16" rate.

The assembly language program looks like this:

```
PORT EQU 3
XRA
OUT PORT
OUT PORT
OUT PORT
MVI A,40H
OUT PORT
MVI A,CEH
OUT PORT
MVI A,27H
OUT PORT
RET
```

You could make up such a program. That's too much work for me. I'd need to make six programs because I don't know which of the three ports I'd want to initialize, and I don't know how to do message I/O in assembly language.

So, I made up the following MicroSoft Basic-80 program. The same concept will work for BASIC/Z, and in Micropolis Basic. If anyone needs help, give me a call.

```
1 OPTION BASE 0
5 FOR I%=0 TO 5:READ DATAIN%(I%):NEXT I%
10 PRINT "WHAT PORT DO YOU WANT INITIALIZED"
20 INPUT PORT%
30 PRINT "DO YOU WANT FAST OR SLOW EXECUTION (F/S)"
40 INPUT RESPONSE$:IF RESPONSE$<>"F" AND RESPONSE$<>"S" THEN GOTO 30
50 IF RESPONSE$="S" THEN DATAIN%(4)=207 ELSE DATAIN%(4)=206
60 PRINT:PRINT "YOU HAVE SELECTED PORT: ";PORT%:PRINT
70 PRINT "THE OUTPUT CODE IS: ";:FOR I%=0 TO 5:PRINT HEX$(DATAIN%(I%));" ";:NEXT I%
80 PRINT:PRINT "IS THIS OK (Y/N)":INPUT RESPONSE$:IF RESPONSE$<>"Y" AND RESPONSE$<>"N" THEN GOTO 5
90 FOR I%=0 TO 5:OUT PORT%,DATAIN%(I%):NEXT I%
95 END
100 DATA 0,0,0,64,0,39
```

This seems to work with my PowerType printer and my VG-3005. At least when I initialize port 5 with "fast", it works - when I use "slow", it doesn't - but when I go back to "fast", it works again.

I don't know which port you are using on your 3005, and I don't have a ZCB manual. Try ports 3, 5, and 7. You won't hurt anything by initializing a non-functional port.

What this does, then, is implement the following table.

Baud Rate Switch	Undoc	Fast	Slow
9600	153600	9600	2400
4800	76800	4800	1200
2400	38400	2400	600
1200	19200	1200	300
600	9600	600	150
300	4800	300	?
150	2400	150	?

For the Bitstreamer II, I have more information. If you look at your Bitstreamer II board, there are three 16-pin sockets on the right-top on the board. The top one is Channel C, middle is Channel B, bottom is Channel A. Normally, the board is jumpered to have Channel C = ports 6&7, B = ports 4&5, and A



driven and allows the user to change and/or modify any program by track, sector and byte. It performs beautifully on my Kaypro. It was originally written for the Osborne. It will function on the Vector, but it will NOT display the menu correctly. When the program is called up, we get a split screen full of near garbage. Much of what the menu says is recognizable, but about half of it is on the far right of the screen (the half that should be on the far left) and some appears on the far left of the screen that should appear on the far right. The middle of the screen is blank. It almost has to be a video problem. It would seem that the program could be patched easily to work on the Vector, if we knew all the Video calls. Would you have time to take a look at the program and see what could be done? I have a COM file, a DOC file and an ASM file that was made with a public domain disassembler.

Elmer F. Little Jr., 3868 Centorbi Court, Florissant MO 63034.

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Elmer - DAMAN doesn't carry a program that does both General Ledger and Spreadsheet functions. Your letter seems to show that you know the difference between the two functions, but I'll explain anyhow.

A spreadsheet, such as Super Calc, is formatted as an accountant's ledger pad, i.e., by rows and columns. Rows are referenced by numbers, while columns are referenced by letters. Each element in the matrix is defined by some row and column, and is called a cell. The designation of the top left cell is therefore "A1"; the third cell down the left hand column is "A3"; the third cell down the third column is "C3". The user can place text, numbers, or equations in any cell of the matrix. For instance, if you placed a set of numbers in cells A1 through A9, you could calculate their sum by placing the equation "SUM(A1:A9)" in cell A10. After that, any change in any number in the cells A1 through A9 would automatically change the result shown in A10. Super Calc allows sizing of the cells, right & left justification of text, the specification of the number of digits of an answer to display, - all sorts of things.

A general ledger (G/L), on the other hand, doesn't allow much operator manipulation of format. Data must be input in a relatively fixed format, into a Journal account. The number of reports any particular G/L will generate will vary by vendor, but there normally will be an allocation of income and expenses to some user defined chart of accounts. A Profit and Loss statement can usually be generated. Accounting period totals are carried forward by means of a Ledger account.

The functions of a G/L can be duplicated with a spreadsheet, if you care to set up the cell definitions properly. I don't think I'd consider that an easy task, and I'm not sure one wouldn't have to modify the definitions each accounting period. The functions of a spreadsheet can not be duplicated by a G/L. Personally, I think both programs are useful, and indeed use both.

DAMAN handles Super Calc I & II (\$174.23 & \$242.06), and Multi-Plan (\$223.44) for spreadsheets. I used Super Calc I until II came out. Super Calc II is faster, and has more options. I've never used Multi-Plan. Other members tell me it is better than Super Calc. However, if you're looking for support from me, I'd rather sell you Super Calc.

General Ledger options are the Micro-Ledger (\$149.80), if you're running MDOS, Bookkeeping if you're running MDOS (\$199.50) or C/PM (\$239.40), or Mini-Ledger (\$126.35) if you're running only CP/M. I don't run Micro-Ledger, but am using both Bookkeeping and Mini-Ledger. I've run Bookkeeping longer, under both MDOS and CP/M, and find it better for keeping a business' accounts. It allows multiple asset accounts. Mini-Ledger essentially allows a single checking account. It does have the ability to quickly enter and change data, and immediately shows the results obtained. It also allows the generation of reports for a single ledger account. Bookkeeping gives you the whole picture, or nothing at all. Bookkeeping and Micro-Ledger include source code, so you can modify the programs if you wish.

This probably doesn't answer all your questions. If you'd care to call me between 7:30 and 9:30 CST, or on weekends, I'd be happy to discuss your requirements in more detail.

If reference to the SPZ program, I agree that the video driver is all that seems to need attention. The control codes are shown in you Vector manual under the Monitor section. We also discussed them in the September 83 newsletter. If you don't wish to play with the ASM file, send it down. I'd be glad to look at it. A problem may exist with Vector owners who only have the ZSM assembler. It isn't the same as Digital Research's ASM, and ZSM sometimes finds errors in "good" ASM files. - Buzz.

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Buzz: I've enjoyed reading the MUG newsletter for the past two years. I would like to make some comments and ask some questions.

Two good books on obtaining software are "Whole Earth Software Catalog 1.0" (Quantum Press/Doubleday) and "How to get free software" by Alfred Glossbrenner.

One thing I have found particularly annoying about the VG is the inability to reconfigure the keypad.

Since the standard control codes for the arrow keys are E,D,S,X and VG uses something else, this makes the vast majority of commercial software difficult to use. Does anyone have any solutions (hardware or software) to this problem?

Is the DUU.COM and DUU.DOC program mentioned in Newsletter #53 (DEC 84) the same as DU-V77 listed on disk #1004? If so, I would be interested in ordering it.

David Heian, 253 First Ave, Chippewa Falls WI 54729; (715) 723-5273

David - I haven't found the control key codes to be a problem. All the commercial software I've seen is either menu selectable for the Vector, or has provisions for setting the codes correctly (as with Spellbinder). There is a program, called Smart Key, which does code translation. One could also reprogram the Vector PROM. Could you tell me what specific problem you're having?

Yes, the DUU on disk 1004 is the same as DU-V77. The SPZ of Elmer's (see above letter) seems to be an even better version. - Buzz

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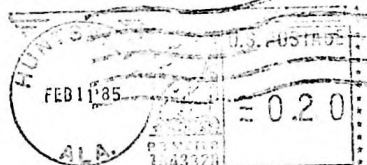
FOR SALE: SOL 20 48K with 9-inch monitor and Micropolis 1053 MOD II drives. Also QUME Sprint 5/45 daisywheel and Prowriter 8510P matrix printers. Will sell system with or without printers.

Bob DeFer, 505 Stephanie Lane, Manchester MO 63011, (314) 394-2869

FOR SALE: Vector Graphic 2600 System, 2 Tandon drives. Never had a hardware failure. Pascal/Z and Microsoft Fortran included. \$1900.

Don Heian, 253 First Ave, Chippewa Falls WI 54729, (715) 723-5273.

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